

## **Trade Apprenticeship Programs**

An apprentice is a paid worker who is enrolled in a special training program administered by an employer or together with a labor organization or trade association. Most apprentices work in trades related to construction or machining or tooling.

Apprenticeship is the best route to a career in a skilled trade. Such careers offer excellent wages and benefits. Moreover, they provide a sense of accomplishment, as the results of work are there for all to see.

Many job opportunities: During the next ten or fifteen years, the number of construction and machining & tooling related jobs in Illinois is expected to grow at a very healthy pace. The greatest growth will occur in electrical work, masonry and stonework, plastering, machining and other specialties.

Most apprenticeships take three to five years to complete. The typical program includes 2,000 hours of on-the-job training plus at least 144 hours per year of related classroom instruction.

Apprentices earn about half the going tradesperson's wage to start. Pay is gradually increased over the length of the apprenticeship, until training is completed and the trainee graduates to full Journeymen status.

Apprenticeship qualifications vary from one trade to the next, but most require:

- a highschool diploma or General Equivalency Diploma (GED)
- your own transportation
- physically able to perform the work of the trade
- ability to work with your hands

Many trades also require:

- above-average math skills
- completion of courses such as chemistry, drafting, industrial arts, applied English, algebra and geometry
- ability to work at elevated heights

Apprenticeships provide equal employment opportunity: Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. However, admission is highly competitive. To be selected, you must meet the qualifications of the particular trade and program to which you are applying.

## **Trades Offering Apprenticeship Programs**

Bricklayers Local #6 JATC  
4477 Linden Road  
Rockford, IL 61109  
(815) 874-1817

Dist. Carpenters JATC  
7978 Newburg Road  
Rockford, IL 61108  
(815) 332-7006

Painters and Allied Trades, Dist. #30 JATC  
2175 Rochester Drive  
Aurora, IL 60506  
(630) 966-1451

Electricians Local #364 NECA JATC  
4864 Colt Road  
Rockford, IL 61108  
(815) 398-6282

Iron Workers Local #498 JATC  
5640 Sockness Dr.  
Rockford, IL 61109  
(815) 873-9180

Laborers Training Program  
Route #3, Box 138  
Mount Sterling, IL 62353  
(217) 773-2741

Northern Illinois Electrical JATC  
619 Southrock Dr.  
Rockford, IL 61102  
(815) 969-8484

Plasters & Cement Masons Local 382 JATC  
212 South First Street  
Rockford, IL 61104  
(815) 965-9977



Plumbers & Pipefitters Local #23 JATC  
4525 Boeing Drive  
Rockford, IL 61109  
(815) 397-0342

Roofing Systems  
1825 Windsor Lake Parkway  
Loves Park, IL 61111  
(815) 654-9549

Rockford Tooling and Machining Association  
P.O. Box 5029  
Rockford, IL 61125-0029  
(815) 227-4125

Sheet Metal Workers Local, #219 SMACA JATC  
3473 Merchandise Drive  
Rockford, IL 61109  
(815) 874-6641

Roofers Local #11 JATC  
9838 West Roosevelt Road  
Westchester, IL 60154  
(708) 345-0975

Operating Engineers JATC  
20959 West Lockport Road  
Plainfield, IL 60544  
(815) 436-4150

For further information contact:  
United States Department of Labor,  
Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training  
Stewart Square  
308 West State Street, Suite 403  
Rockford, IL 61101

Ronda Kliman  
Area Training Representative  
(815) 987-4253